

(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

HOMELAND SECURITY: Requires each parish to create an advisory committee on emergency management.

DIGEST

Proposed law provides that each parish or police jury president, through the appointed parish director of homeland security and emergency preparedness shall form a parish emergency management advisory committee.

Proposed law provides that the purpose of the committee shall be to offer advice and counsel to the parish or police jury president on homeland security and emergency management issues. Proposed law further provides that the parish or police jury president may consider the advice and counsel from the committee on such matters as planning, development, prioritization, coordination and implementation of homeland security and emergency management issues to include but not be limited to homeland security and emergency management mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, grant requests, and the expenditure of grant funds.

Proposed law provides that the parish or police jury president shall serve as the chairperson of the committee or shall designate the parish director of homeland security and emergency preparedness to serve as the chairperson. Proposed law provides that if the parish or police jury president serves as the chairperson, the parish director shall serve as vice chairperson of the committee.

Proposed law provides that at a minimum, membership of the committee consist of:

1. A fire chief from the parish as a representative of all the fire chiefs in a parish.
2. A chief executive officer from one of the municipalities of the parish, as a representative of all chief executive officers of the parish.
3. A police chief from the parish as a representative of all the police chiefs of the parish.
4. The sheriff of the parish or his designee.
5. A senior executive from the emergency medical services community within a parish.

Proposed law provides that the representatives of the fire chiefs, municipal chief executive officers, police chiefs, and emergency medical services shall be appointed to the committee by those persons holding the same position within the parish.

Proposed law provides that the committee shall meet no less often than twice per year and shall submit a report to the director of the governor's office of homeland security on or before April 1 of each year, commencing April 1, 2010. Proposed law specifies that the annual report shall address those issues identified by the director in consultation with the regional parish office of emergency preparedness parish directors' subcommittee and shall be submitted by January 1 of each year.

Proposed law provides that requirement of forming a parish emergency advisory committee may be satisfied by existing homeland security and emergency preparedness, provided that the membership consists of those persons designated in proposed law.

Proposed law provides that its provisions shall not restrict or impair the rights and responsibilities of a parish president or those of a committee created by the police jury or other local agency to respond to an emergency.

(Adds R.S. 29:727(I))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill.

1. Specifies the issues to be addressed by the parish emergency management advisory committee.
2. Deletes requirement that the advisory committee submit its report to the Jt. Committee on Homeland Security.
3. Specifies the issues to be addressed in the annual report and provides for submission of the report on January 1 of each year.
4. Specifies membership of existing parish committees that may be used in lieu of forming a parish emergency advisory committee.
5. States that proposed law shall not restrict or impair the rights and responsibilities of a parish president to respond to an emergency.

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Provides that nothing shall restrict or impair the rights and responsibilities of a committee created by a parish police jury or other local agency pursuant to a joint services agreement to develop and implement a plan in response to an emergency.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the reengrossed bill.

1. Adds provision that nothing in proposed law restricts or impairs the rights and responsibilities of a parish or police jury president to respond to an emergency.